

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING  
TUESDAY, JULY 10, 2018  
5:00 PM

Present: Richard Schadewald, James Crawford, Karen Sanchez, Jay Tibbetts, Cheryl Weber, Susan Molenaar

Excused: Joe Van Deurzen

Others Present: Supervisor Steve Deslauries, Eric Pritzl, Anna Destree, Rob Gollman, Ann Steinberger, Patti Zich (minutes recorder)

1. **Call to Order, Welcome, Introductions**  
Chairman Richard Schadewald called the meeting to order.
2. **Approval / Modification of the Agenda**  
MOTION: To approve agenda. Crawford / Molenaar  
  
MOTION CARRIED
3. **Approval of Minutes of Meeting of May 8, 2018.**  
MOTION: To approve the minutes from May 8, 2018. Crawford / Weber  
  
MOTION CARRIED.
4. **2018-2020 Beyond Health CHIP Report**  
Anna submitted the Beyond Health CHIP Report. The priorities stayed the same with Oral Health going into sustain mode.
5. **Environmental Division update**  
Rob stated we are in license renewal process and stated we have 1,870 paid establishments and 46 unpaid establishments. Rob stated we sent out a survey with the renewals and we will evaluate the survey to improve our program. Rob indicated we had to condemn a home in Pittsfield and we will be issuing orders on a home in Wayside. Erik Pritzl complimented the collaboration between the Public Health Division and Human Services Division when handling difficult situations. Jim Crawford complimented how staff handled his water sample. Jim asked if Public Health thought about testing for nitrates. Rob indicated it is not financially feasible. Rob stated we would potentially offer water testing to other municipalities. Anna will apprise the Board on any developments of Bay Beach. Rob announced he would be retiring on August 1. Mr. Schadewald congratulated Rob.
6. **Nursing Division update**  
Ann Steinberger stated we are a part of the multistate, cross-jurisdictional cyclospora outbreak. Brown County had 13 cases of cyclospora and three related to the outbreak. There were 212 cases national wide. Ann stated we would be having a targeted mass immunization clinic on August 15. Ann indicated she received a press release from the State of Wisconsin confirming the death of a La Crosse County resident from Rocky Mountain spotted fever. Ann stated we continue with our prevention efforts and she gave each Board member our "Fight the Bite" pouch. Ann stated we used communicable disease prevention dollars to increase our immunization assurance and we have several billboards highlighting HPV vaccine. In October, we will highlight influenza. Mr. Schadewald asked for an update on the rattrap distribution. Erik Pritzl indicated on June 30 at the Neville Public Museum they distributed approximately 250 traps to approximately 70 people.
7. **Health Officer's Report**  
Anna stated we are continuing our move planning following the ICS, Incident Command System, which helps direct staff questions and concerns to the right places. We are continuing with our strategic planning with the long-term goal becoming accredited and integrating trauma informed care into public health practices. The goals this year are to have a quality improvement plan and a performance management plan. We hoped a Public Health Planner would be creating these plans. In light of the planner position being on hold, we delegated it to another staff member. That draft plan needs reviewing by management and staff.

Mr. Schadewald asked if the Farmers Markets were expanding. Rob indicated his staff was busy inspecting those markets. Mr. Schadewald asked if we had enough staff members to accommodate as we are going into budget. Rob stated we might need to hire more staff at some point. Dr. Tibbetts asked Anna about the WAHL DAB wind turbine working group; who participants, where are the minutes, how is this posted? Anna stated it was a WALHDAB, Wisconsin Association of Local Health Departments and Boards, workgroup that consists of WAHL DAB, local health departments and the State. They meet once every month and are still trying to figure out their purpose. They know they want to have common talking points. Dr. Tibbetts stated this Board of Health probably has been involved longer and more intensely than any Board of Health in the country. Dr. Tibbetts asked if they would bring in Bill Acker or BCCRWE as resources. Anna stated they have had conversations of who should they bring in and what is the goal of this group. Anna stated the Wind Siting Council came in because a report is due in 2019 and they wanted to learn about that report. Mr. Schadewald would like further reports. Jim Crawford stated Anna's predecessor thought wind turbines were not a human health hazard and asked Anna if it met the State's definition of a human health hazard. Anna stated multiple reviews and studies have been done and at this time, it does not fall to the level of an imminent human health hazard. Anna states they define an imminent human health hazard as something that can cause imminent bodily injury or death and at this time, it does not fall to that level. Mr. Crawford agreed.

**8. Public Health Legislation – Standing Item**  
None.

**9. Receive new information on wind turbines – Standing Item**  
Anna Destree provided the Board with her 5-30-18 Update to the Human Services Committee.

Jim Crawford submitted a *“Short CV of Dr. Geoff Leventhall along with a document entitled “7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Wind Turbine Noise, Rotterdam – 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> May 2017, Why do some people believe that they are ‘made ill’ by wind turbine noise,” by Geoff Leventhall.* Jim stated the paper describes the indirect psychological mechanism whereby viewing a wind farm may cause some neighbors annoyance and others pleasure or indifference. Anti-wind critics, he stated, frequently attribute the annoyance to the dubious wind turbine syndrome and site infrasound as the cause. For example, the Cape Bridgewater Wind Farm Study by Steven Cooper neglected audible noise and the view of a wind farm as a cause of the complaints and jumps to this new thing, inaudible infrasound. This paper debunks infrasound as a cause of that annoyance. Leventhall believes the complaints result from the Illusory Truth Effect, which is established through repetition of negative views of wind turbines. He notes that the listed symptoms for Wind Turbine Syndrome are almost the same as those for unmanaged stress. Jim states this is a conference paper and it is not peer reviewed.

Bill Acker submitted document entitled *“Renewable Electricity Production From 2017 to 2050,”* by William G. Acker dated July 8, 2018. Mr. Acker stated over the past few months, he has noticed that the price of electricity from utility sized solar photovoltaic solar farms have become competitive against wind on a cost per kilowatt-hour basis. That lead him to study to see what the projection is for solar photovoltaic versus industrial wind. Bill states the Energy Information Administration (EIA) comes out with projections up to 20 to 30 years beyond the current year and the report is showing is that the growth of industrial wind turbine systems is going to drastically drop off after the year 2020. In terms of kilowatt-hours per year production, the growth of that per year through 2050 will drop from the current approximately 13% growth each year to about a 2% growth per year. That is being replaced by solar photovoltaic systems or PV systems being installed not just by the utility sector but also by the residential sector. The growth in electrical production for solar photovoltaic from 2020 to 2050 is projected to be about 28.82% growth in kilowatt-hour production each year.

Barb VandenBoogart submitted a report entitled *“Excerpts from Keith Stelling’s Report Entitled ‘Infrasound Low Frequency Noise and Industrial Wind Turbines 2015, Along with interjectory comments by (BCCRWE President) Barbara Vanden Boogart.”* Barbara states this report involves the NASA study which was very foundational in understanding what went on and those studies directly dispute what Mr. Crawford was saying concerning Mr. Leventhall. Barbara read directly from this report and it is on file.

David Enz stated one thing others do not have is experience living by wind turbines. He has the effects and family members have the effects. He states he was sick enough to leave his home after a few months. He has enough experience and that will counter any kind of education the Board will get. Mr. Enz states there is definitely a problem in Shirley Wind and effecting the health of people. Dave Enz has offered his house in Shirley for anyone who wants to live there. He stated he knows not everyone is symptomatic so there needs to be more than one. Mr. Schadewald asked if the Board of Health or County wanted to, could they put up

equipment to test on his property. Dave Enz said yes if it was a properly designed test to find the truth. Mr. Schadewald asked if stray voltage was measured at Dave Enz's property and he indicated it was. Mr. Crawford stated there were better measurement techniques.

**10. Correspondences**

None.

**11. Comments from the Public**

Michelle Schauer, 6225 Highview Road. Michelle stated she has six turbines all within a mile and a half of their home and she has three children who reside there along with her husband. Michelle questioned imminent bodily harm or death and Mr. Schadewald reminded Michelle that this was not question and answer session. Anna stated that if your children are experiencing heart palpitations that she should see a doctor. Michelle stated they built the house in 1999 and her children were born between 1998 and 2001. Michelle stated in the last 10 years there has been an increase in problems. Michelle has to sleep in the basement now because she cannot get restful sleep. The basement relieves some of their children's symptoms. She stated her son has heart problems. They have seen a counselor and the counselor has said that their problems have been getting worse the past 5-7 years. He has noticed their symptoms have gotten worse even though they get regular check-ups ever three months. The psychotherapy has not helped. Mr. Schadewald asked if she took them to a medical doctor. She indicated yes but once you leave the area, the symptoms just go away.

Susan Molenaar and Karen Sanchez left the meeting.

Bill Acker submitted an article entitled "*Brown County Board Candidate Tried to Erase Public Input*," by Jerry Bader, dated March 22, 2018.

Bill Acker also submitted a document prepared by William G. Acker dated July 10, 2018, entitled "*Unprofessional Behavior by Jim Crawford*." Mr. Acker began to read the document Case #1 and Jim Crawford indicated it was slanderous. Mr. Schadewald recommended Mr. Acker not submit the document. Mr. Schadewald stated that if he still wanted to submit the document to submit in written form only. Mr. Acker wanted the document submitted.

Bill Acker also submitted a 5-page document entitled "*Engineering Expertise of William G. Acker*," prepared July 9, 2018. This documents his experience starting in 1974 and through the present, which is on file.

**12. All Other Business Authorized by Law**

Dr. Tibbetts stated the Chair of the Health and Human Services Committee, Erik Hoyer, has co-sponsored an advisory referendum to allow legalization of marijuana. Mr. Schadewald stated it asked, "Do you support the State of Wisconsin legalizing...." Dr. Tibbetts is against this but recognizes the position that there are some very legitimate uses and there has been recently a product released for certain pediatric issues.

Jim Crawford thanked Bill for submitting his experience. He stated it does not show that Bill is licensed as an engineer in Wisconsin. Jim stated at the March meeting Dr. Tibbetts submitted a document by Professor Vahl which claimed that it proved infrasound reduces the strength of the heart muscle. Dr. Tibbetts stated there was a follow-up on that in Germany. Jim Crawford states the professor's study appears to not have exposed the muscle to infrasound noise. Jim stated they attached the muscle to a vibrator and vibrated it at low frequency. There is no sound involved. A vibrator, though similar to a loud speaker, does not have a cone to radiate sound. Jim Crawford stated at the May meeting Barbara Vanden Boogart submitted a paper by Stephen Cooper, which claims his subjects, could detect infrasound. Jim states the study does not prove that. Jim stated the article was vague. The subjects were probably hearing audible noise not infrasound. He stated there are other problems in that it involved a small number of subjects – 9. Two of the control group heard sound when none was playing and it could involve tricks with the stereo set up. Jim stated, therefore, Cooper wants us to throw out the concepts of the nocebo effect and our hearing thresholds. This study does not support that. It does cry out for a peer review and Jim would like Geoff Leventhall hired by BCCRWE to do the review. Jim stated at the May meeting Barbara handed out a criticism by the Waubra Foundation of the new reference book Wind Turbine Syndrome, the book that exposes the anti-wind turbine movement for that it is. Waubra is described in the book; the group appears to be heavily advised against wind farms and efforts to replace fossil fuels with wind energy. Jim read an excerpt from page 186. "The Waubra Foundation has been Australia's most prominent anti-windfarm group.....Peter Mitchell, a Victorian mining, oil, set up the

foundation in March 2010 and gas investor, who chaired it until January 2015, then spent some 14 months as its patron. He ended his office bearing involvement in March 2016. Mitchell's antagonism to windfarms sprang from a proposal by Origin Energy to build a windfarm near his country estate." Mr. Crawford recommends this book to the Board of Health.

Cheryl Weber thanked the Board and Public Health for allowing them to go to the conference and there was good information. She saw many board members there and she was glad that we are reaching out and looking at some of the issues other communities and counties are dealing with. Cheryl liked the protective family's framework. Mr. Schadewald asked Cheryl to submit to the Public Health Officer. Anna complimented Mr. Schadewald on the speech he gave at the event.

**13. Adjournment / Next Meeting**

MOTION: To adjourn meeting

Weber / Crawford

MOTION CARRIED

NEXT MEETING: September 11, 2018 5:00 PM